WITCHES' TALES

35¢

K 47356

SEPT 1973

Still Only 60¢

IN THIS ISSUE:

THE HAGS' BOILING CAULDRON CONJURES A

HORROR IN WOOD

PLUS

THE VAMPIRE

KING KONG
Item 639K.......King Kong..........$1.00
Item 639B. Beast from 20,000 fathoms1.00
ORDER BOTH for $1.75 and save
ATOMIC SMOKE BOMB
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No. 971 30c
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PEN SIZE—CLIPS ON YOUR POCKET. 6 POWER MAGNIFIER.
Six power wide field magnifier is great for watching sporting events, nature study, girl watching and counter spying. Also contains a 30 power microscope. Not a toy but a real optical instrument.
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VAMPIRE B-L-O-O-D
You never know when a Vampire will strike! Be ready with this realistic-looking "Vampire blood" and watch the girls swoon. Non-toxic of course--absolutely safe. Comes in a tube.
Item No. 622..................50¢
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No. 230 Only 50c
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Obeys Your Commands!
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Scare the daylights out of your "victim" as this terrifying life size ghost hovers and darts over him. Can be controlled up to 30 feet away so you can hide while watching your victim. Complete instructions included.
MT101............$1.00
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No. 247
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No. 701 ....$1.00
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No. 158 $1.00
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No. 30 75¢
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Throw your voice into trunks, behind doors, everywhere. Fits in your mouth out of sight. Fool teacher, friends, family. Free book on "How to Become a Ventriloquist."
No. 137 35c
Chop a cigarette in two in either hole. Put finger in top hole and cigarette in lower. The cigarette is cut, but your finger is unharmed. Full instructions. $1
No. 6222
FINGER CHOPPER
RAQUEL WELCH PILLOW
ONLY $1.98
What man wouldn't enjoy spending a night with Raquel Welch? Well, we can't deliver her, but we can deliver that next best thing—a 12" x 24" inflatable pillow of Raquel made of rugged vinyl to serve as your headrest. Keep her for yourself or show her to your friends. Livens up party when everyone sees and feels this great gag item.
RB15....$1.98
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ONLY $2.75
This professional type detective badge kit and case includes an extra heavy silvered nickle badge for use by private and special investigators PLUS authentic-type case and I.D. Card. Impress your friends with this official looking novolty. No.860...$2.75
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"Power Packed" Arm Builders To Give you mighty striking power
"Power Packed" wristlets build the powerful arms you want without special equipment or exercises. Just wear these rugged lead weighted wristlets during your ordinary activities at work or play.
#900...........$3.98
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Slip these knobby "paws" on and watch your friends disappear. Ugh! They're awful! If you're got the courage, maybe you can have fun(?) with them.
Item No. 607...$1.98
TRICK BLACK SOAP
Ordinary looking piece of soap. Victim washes face and gets blacker and blacker. When he gets a look in the mirror, he'll be shocked. Harmless.
No. 878 Only 35¢
FULL SIZE SKELETON
7 FEET TALL
EYES GLOW IN THE DARK
This 7 foot tall "BONEY THE SKELETON" is scary enough at any time—but wait till you see him IN THE DARK in all his horrible, spine chilling grandeur, eyes glowing like fiery coals. If you like to haunt houses or frighten friends, this is for you! Or hang "Boney" in your room or to liven up a party.
No. F200 $1.00
ONION GUM
Looks like real chewing gum but tastes like ONIONS! It's too funny! 5 slices in a pack.
No. 201 20c
FOAMING SUGAR
Looks just like real sugar, but that's where the resemblance stops. When it's dropped in liquid, they overflow and form clouds of suds. Seems as though it'll never stop.
25c
HOT PEPPER GUM
A121 25¢
SURPRISE PACKAGE
Are you willing to take a chance? We won't tell you what you get, but because you're willing to gamble, we'll give you more than your money's worth.
No. 878 Only 50c
MONEYMAKER
Insert a blank piece of paper, turn the knob and ... OUT COMES A REAL DOLLAR BILL! Insert the dollar and it changes to a $5 then the $5 changes to $10.
A135 1.25
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Results in just 30 days
Pocket gym slaps inches of muscle on your arms and torso. Gain the respect of your friends—the admiration of the girls. Keep fit and healthy. Fear no one! Made of heavy rubber.
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What fun and laughs as you watch your zoo full of Sea Monkeys obey your commands, dance to music, and loop-the-loop. A "Variety Show" for the whole family for only $1. FREE Instruction Book, water purifier, and a FULL YEAR supply of growth food.
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This miracle book gives the addresses of associations, federal agencies, and manufacturers that are anxious to send you ABSOLUTELY FREE samples, manuals, and books. A fabulous treasure trove completely up-to-date which will bring you gifts worth many times its low cost.
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Rush me the items listed below. If I am not 100% satisfied I may return any part of my purchase after 10 days FREE TRIAL for full refund of purchase price.
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HOW MANY
TOTAL PRICE
Please add 25c to total order for postage and handling.
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED
NAME
ADDRESS
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NY State residents add state and local sales tax.

WITCHES' TALES

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CARL BURGOS, Editor IRVING FASS, Art Director
EZRA JACKSON, Art Editor

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THE VAMPIRE

MY NAME IS WALTER FARNO! AS A WRITER OF SOME RENOWN, I AM ALSO A VERY INTENSE TRAVELER! COME WITH ME AS I TELL YOU MY STORY...
A MONSIEUR FARNO! WELCOME! WELCOME! I HOPE YOUR STAY WILL BE AN ENJOYABLE ONE!
I'M SURE I WILL, MONSIEUR MAYOR!

HERE YOU!! CAREFUL WITH THAT BOX, OAFS!
IT IS YOURS, MONSIEUR?
CRASH

BELNOW GREETED ME WITH OPEN ARMS! IT WASN'T OFTEN THAT A FAMOUS WRITER CAME TO VISIT THEM, BUT MY PURPOSE WAS NOT FOR A REST! YOU SEE, I HAD ONLY TOLD THE MAYOR HALF THE TRUTH! LATER...

WE WALKED ALONG TOGETHER FOR QUITE A WHILE, THEN WHEN THE FULL MOON REACHED IT'S PEAK, I STOPPED...

THEN--OF COURSE--I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF! THERE WAS NO USE DENYING THE INEVITABLE...

HE MADE A FUTILE ATTEMPT TO ELUDE ME, BUT OF COURSE I WAS SO MUCH STRONGER! EVEN THIS GIANT COULDN'T STOP A VAMPIRE!
WHAT WARM SWEET BLOOD, PAUL! IT HEARTENS ME GREATLY! HA, HA...

AND THE NEXT AFTERNOON, I MET MAYOR LAFARGE IN THE INN-SALOON!
PAUL HAS BEEN KILLED! MONSIEUR FARNO! YOU WERE LAST SEEN WITH HIM! CAN YOU TELL US ANYTHING?
INDEED NOT, SIR! I LEFT HIM IMMEDIATELY! HOW COULD SUCH A GIANT BE OVERPOWERED AND KILLED?

THAT IS WHAT ALSO PUZZLES ME! AND THAT IS WHY YOU HAVE BEEN ABSOLVED OF ALL GUILT! OH--I WANT YOU TO MEET MY DAUGHTER, DESIRÉ!
CHARMED!

IT IS A HORRIBLE THING, IS IT NOT, MONSIEUR? WHO WOULD WANT TO DO SUCH A THING?
PLEASE DON'T LET IT MAKE YOU OVER-WROUGHT, DESIRÉ! YOU NEED PLENTY OF GAIETY!

AND IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOWED, I CULTIVATED THIS WONDERFUL GIRL'S FRIENDSHIP! PICNICS, DAYS ON THE BEACH, DANCING!

CONTRARY TO POPULAR BELIEF, VAMPIRES ARE LIKE ORDINARY PEOPLE--THAT IS TO SAY, THEY CAN GO OUT DURING THE DAYTIME! BUT, OF COURSE, THEY DO HAVE ABNORMAL APPETITES, AND MINE WAS GROWING AGAIN...
PARDON ME...WHERE'S THE ROAD TO BELNOW? ...I SEEM TO BE LOST!
IT IS NOT FAR FROM HERE! YOU JUST...

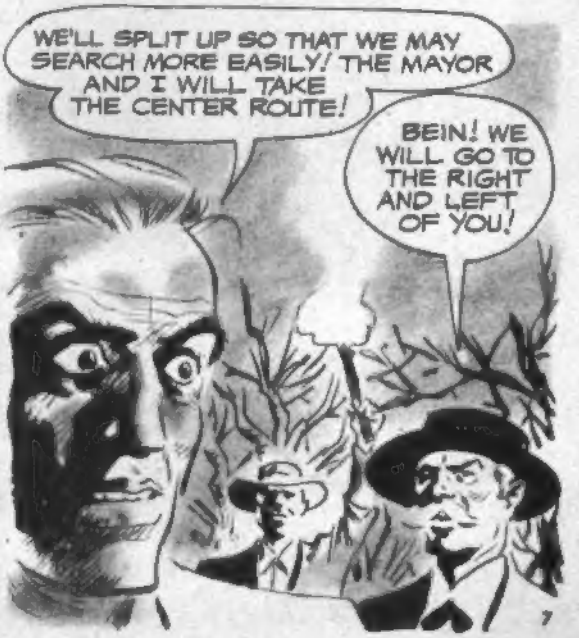
YOU GO THREE KILOMETERS TOWARDS RUE CHAMPLAIN-- T-THEN... YOU--
YES? GO ON...! SOMETHING WRONG, OLD MAN?

HA, HA, HA...
MONSIEUR! YOUR HANDS! YAAAAHHHHH!

I WENT HOME, MY GAIETY BUBBLING OVER! THE NEXT MORNING...
I JUST HEARD THE NEWS! THIS IS TERRIBLE! SOMETHING MUST BE DONE!
IT WAS MY GRANPERE, WALTER! DO YOU UNDERSTAND? I-I LOVED HIM! SOB--SOB!

HER GRANDFATHER? NO! IT COULD NOT BE, BUT THE FACTS WERE NOT TO BE DENIED! AND DESIRE COULD BE NEXT...
WHAT SHALL I DO? I MUST THINK OF SOMETHING! I DON'T WANT TO KILL HER AS WELL! BUT MY DESIRE FOR THAT BLOOD LEAVES ME WEAK!

NEVERTHELESS, I HAD TO KEEP UP A PRETENSE! I ORGANIZED A SEARCH PARTY TO CAPTURE THE "MURDERER"!
COME! WE MUST FIND THIS MAN!
YES! WE WILL HANG HIM ONCE WE CATCH HIM!


WE'LL SPLIT UP SO THAT WE MAY SEARCH MORE EASILY! THE MAYOR AND I WILL TAKE THE CENTER ROUTE!
BEIN! WE WILL GO TO THE RIGHT AND LEFT OF YOU!

MOMENTS LATER.
LOOK THERE, MONSIEUR LE MAYOR! QUICKLY!
EH? WHERE?

OH-- I'M AFRAID YOU MISSED HIM! HE WAS A LITTLE TOO FAST FOR YOU!
NONSENSE! I THINK I SEE SOMETHING--!

THE ONLY THING YOU SAW WAS YOUR IMAGINATION! NOW YOU SHALL REALLY SEE HIM!! HA... HA...
AAIIIEEEE!

I ATTENDED TO MY BUSINESS QUICKLY! THEN WITHOUT WASTING ANOTHER MOMENT, I SLASHED MY FACE, TORE MY CLOTHES SUFFICIENTLY. AND RAN BACK TOWARD THE MAIN BODY...
OHHH-- HELP! HELP! THE MAYOR! HE'S BEEN ATTACKED BY-- BY A VAMPIRE! I BARELY ESCAPED DEATH!! HURRY!
SACRE BLEU!

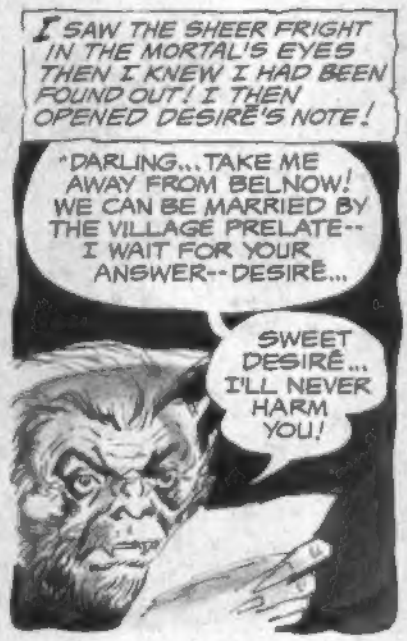
OH-- WALTER-- WALTER, YOU-- YOU ARE ALIVE!! I HEARD SHOUTS! FATHER IS--IS--?
YES, DEAR! THIS IS A HORRIBLE NIGHTMARE! COME! I'LL TAKE YOU HOME!

AFTERWARDS, IN MY OWN ROOM, I SHOULD HAVE EXULTED OVER MY CUNNING, BUT I WAS TORN BY THE BITTER ANGUISH OF MY EVIL!
NO! NO! WHAT AM I THINKING ABOUT? I-- I WOULD RATHER KILL MYSELF FIRST! I'LL FIND ANOTHER VICTIM! YES-- THAT'S IT!

SO THAT VERY NEXT NIGHT, I STALKED A PRETTY YOUNG THING--TO BLOT OUT THE TEMPTATION OF KILLING DESIRÉ...
EEEEE!
DON'T BE ALARMED, MY CHILD! IT WILL HURT BUT A MOMENT!

BUT THAT NIGHT I WAS CARELESS...
DID HE SEE ME? I WONDER!
WHAT IS IT YOU WANT!
BEG PARDON, SIR! BUT DESIRÉ LAFARGE IS DOWNSTAIRS! SHE GAVE ME THIS NOTE!

YOU MAY LEAVE! THANK YOU!!
Y-YES!!


I SAW THE SHEER FRIGHT IN THE MORTAL'S EYES THEN I KNEW I HAD BEEN FOUND OUT! I THEN OPENED DESIRÉ'S NOTE!
"DARLING... TAKE ME AWAY FROM BELNOW! WE CAN BE MARRIED BY THE VILLAGE PRELATE-- I WAIT FOR YOUR ANSWER--DESIRÉ...
SWEET DESIRÉ... I'LL NEVER HARM YOU!

THEN I KNEW WHAT TO DO! I REQUESTED DESIRÉ TO MEET ME..
DESIRÉ--COME! I'VE CAUGHT THE VAMPIRE! DO EXACTLY AS I SAY! TAKE A LARGE STAKE FROM THE STOVE! YOU MUST KILL IT AS IT LIES IN ITS COFFIN!

I EXERTED EVERY OUNCE OF MY POWER TO HYNOTIZE HER--FOR SHE WOULD NEVER DO IT OF HER OWN FREE WILL--THEN THE DOOR OPENED...
COME QUICKLY, DESIRÉ! YOU MUST PLUNGE IT DOWN AS HARD AS YOU CAN!
YES...

DESIRÉ--I SHALL LOVE YOU--ALWAYS!
SOMEDAY--SHE WILL UNDERSTAND--SOMEDAY--SHE WILL PITY ME!

THE END

HORROR in WOOD

I AM A GREAT ARTIST! BUT WITH YOU, I AM NOTHING!

THE NEXT DAY, MORDANN RETURNS TO THE THEATRE AND WATCHES RAPTLY AS TERCELLE PERFORMS! AFTER THE SHOW, HE SNEAKS BACKSTAGE...
NO ONE IS AROUND! I MUST LOOK AT HIM MORE CLOSELY!

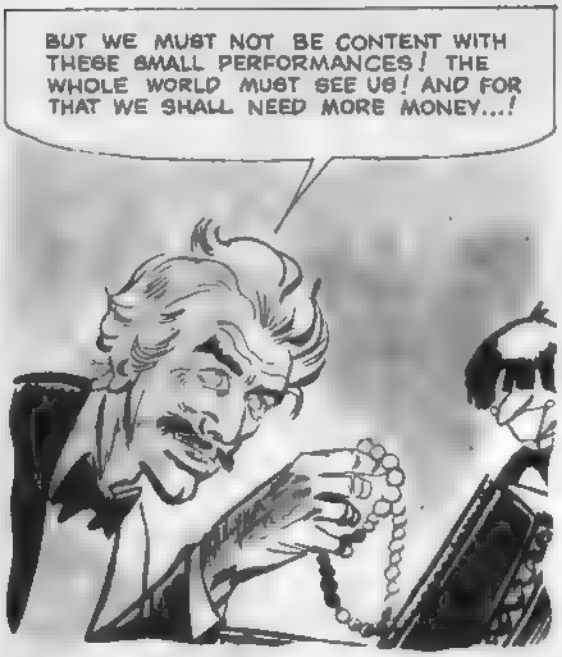
YOU ARE A WORK OF ART! WITH YOU I CAN DO ANYTHING...! ANYTHING!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? GIVE HIM TO ME! IMMEDIATELY!
NO..! I-I MUST HAVE HIM I MUST!

YOU CANNOT HAVE HIM...! HE MUST BE MINE!
AAAAGGGRR!

YOU-- PERHAPS YOU'VE KILLED ME...! BUT... MY DUMMY... WILL REVENGE ME! HE WILL... REVENGE... ME...
HA-HA-HA...! NOW WE SHALL SEE WHO IS THE GREATEST VENTRILOQUIST IN THE WORLD!

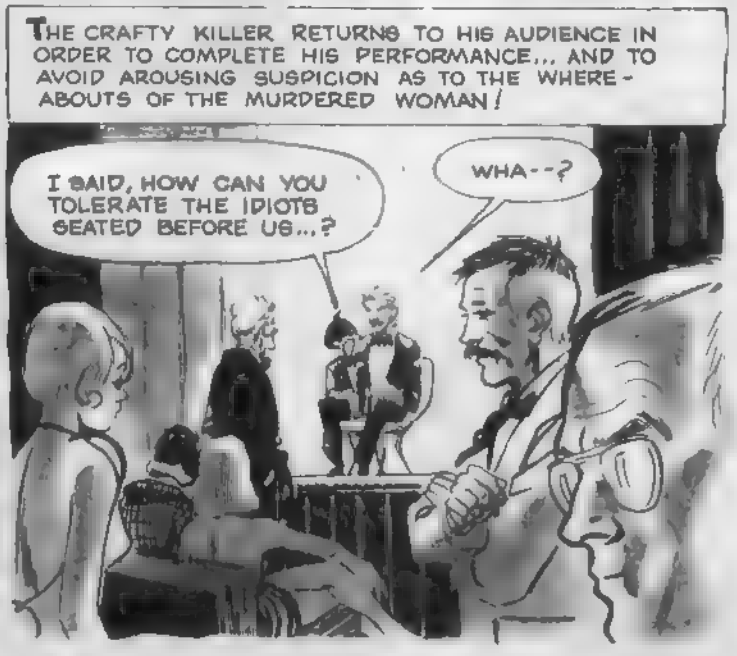
WITH TEREGELLE'S DUMMY, MORDANN SOON ESTABLISHES A REPUTATION AMONG THE SOCIETY ELEMENT OF THE CITY AND IS CALLED UPON TO ENTERTAIN AT MANY SOCIAL GATHERINGS!
HA-HA! THEY DO RECOGNIZE YOU, PHILIP, WITH YOUR NEW NAME AND NEW HAIR! THEY WERE ENTHRALLED WITH OUR PERFORMANCE!


BUT WE MUST NOT BE CONTENT WITH THESE SMALL PERFORMANCES! THE WHOLE WORLD MUST SEE US! AND FOR THAT WE SHALL NEED MORE MONEY...!

WE WILL ONLY TAKE THE RING PHILIP! IT WON'T BE MISSED!
MR MORDANN! WHAT ARE YOU DOING...!

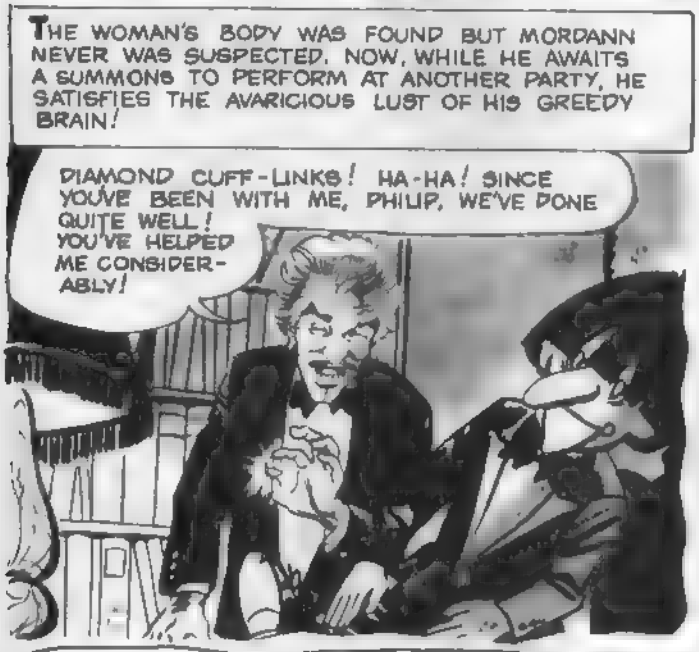
KILL HER...! KILL HER...!
WHAT--! YES... YOU'RE RIGHT! SHE MUST BE KILLED! NO ONE CAN STAND IN OUR WAY...!
AAAGGRR!

I THOUGHT YOU SPOKE, PHILIP...! BUT KILLING HER WAS MY IDEA SHE WOULD HAVE SPOILED EVERYTHING!


THE CRAFTY KILLER RETURNS TO HIS AUDIENCE IN ORDER TO COMPLETE HIS PERFORMANCE... AND TO AVOID AROUSING SUSPICION AS TO THE WHERE-ABOUTS OF THE MURDERED WOMAN!
I SAID, HOW CAN YOU TOLERATE THE IDIOTS SEATED BEFORE US...?
WHA--?

ISN'T HE AMAZING! IT'S ALMOST AS IF THE DUMMY WERE ALIVE!
DID I SAY SOMETHING WRONG?

RETURNING TO HIS ROOM AFTER THE TRIUMPHANT PERFORMANCE, A SHAKEN MORDANN CONFRONT THE GRINNING, PAINTED LIMP DUMMY!
YOU... YOU DIDN'T SPEAK...! DID YOU! BUT WE MADE THEM THINK YOU DID...! DIDN'T WE? YOU DON'T ANSWER...! HA-HA-HA! OF COURSE NOT! YOU CAN'T


THE WOMAN'S BODY WAS FOUND BUT MORDANN NEVER WAS SUSPECTED. NOW, WHILE HE AWAITS A SUMMONS TO PERFORM AT ANOTHER PARTY, HE SATISFIES THE AVARICIOUS LUST OF HIS GREEDY BRAIN!
DIAMOND CUFF-LINKS! HA-HA! SINCE YOU'VE BEEN WITH ME, PHILIP, WE'VE DONE QUITE WELL! YOU'VE HELPED ME CONSIDERABLY!

WHAT...?
KILL HER... SHE WILL GIVE US AWAY!
YES...! I MUST KILL HER...!

AAAGGRRR...!
YOU'LL NEVER TELL ANYONE OF WHAT YOU'VE SEEN...!

YOU SPOKE PHILIP...! YOU-YOU TOLD ME TO KILL HER...! NO...NO! THAT'S MAD! IT WAS MY IMAGINATION!

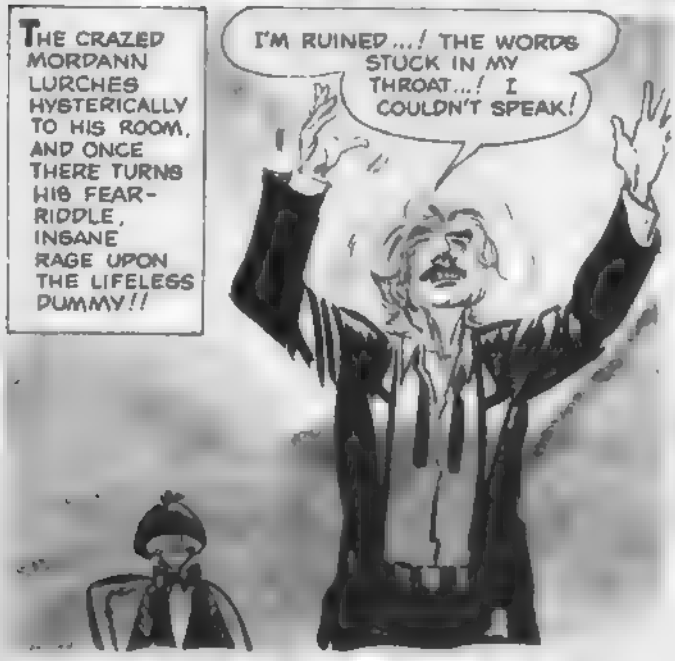
LATER, MORDANN RUSHES OUT TO MEET HIS AUDIENCE...
SAY "GOOD EVENING" TO THESE LOVELY PEOPLE PHILIP...!
I'LL SAY NOTHING OF THE KIND TO THESE FOOLS!
HOW DARE HE!
I-I THINK YOU SHOULD APOLOGIZE, PHILIP...!
GO TO THE DEVIL!
THAT'S JUST PART OF HIS ACT! I THINK HE'S QUITE DIVERTING ...AND DIFFERENT!
MORDANN, BAFFLED AND TERRORSTRICKEN, MANAGES TO BRING HIS ACT TO A CONCLUSION... THEN, IN THE PRIVACY OF HIS ROOM, MORDANN RAGES AT THE LIFELESS DOLL!
DID YOU SPEAK...! TELL ME... TELL ME!
YOU ARE NOTHING BUT PAINTED WOOD AND SAWDUST! IT WAS MY IMAGINATION...! THE WORDS I PUT INTO YOUR MOUTH...!
REMEMBER... I CAN KILL YOU AS I DID, TERCELLE... AND THE OTHERS! NOTHING WILL STAND IN MY WAY...! NOTHING!

THE FOLLOWING MONTHS, HOWEVER, FIND MORDANN GROWING IN POPULARITY AND STATURE...
I AM A SUCCESS, MY STUPID LITTLE DUMMY...! NO LONGER DOES MY IMAGINATION PLAY TRICKS ON ME!

IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO PRESENT THE FABULOUS PETER MORDANN... AND PHILIP!

I-I CAN'T SPEAK...!
HA-HA! CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE?

I-I'M RUINED...!


THE CRAZED MORDANN LURCHES HYSTERICALLY TO HIS ROOM, AND ONCE THERE TURNS HIS FEAR-RIDDLE, INSANE RAGE UPON THE LIFELESS DUMMY!!
I'M RUINED...! THE WORDS STUCK IN MY THROAT...! I COULDN'T SPEAK!

YOU FOOL! YOU HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT! I DIDN'T SPEAK!

NO! NO...! YOU CAN'T BE...!

YOU ARE FINISHED MORDANN ...HA-HA-HA...!

NO! NO! I'LL KILL YOU... KILL YOU. JUST AS I DID TERCELLE...!

THERE IS NOTHING LEFT FOR YOU, MORDANN, BUT DEATH! GET THE KNIFE FROM THE DESK...!
DEATH...? THE KNIFE...? HE-HE-HAAAA...!

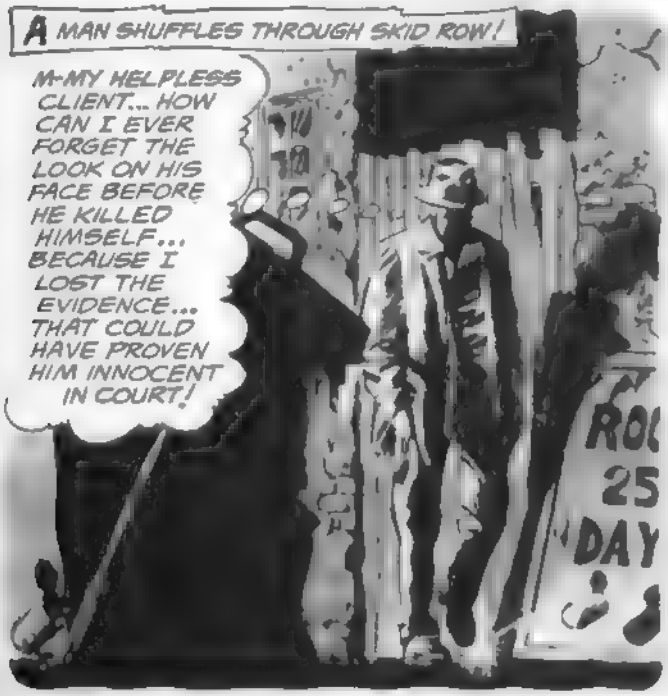
YOU HAVE WON, TERCELLE...! YOU HAVE KILLED ME...! AAHHGGGRRRAAAA...!

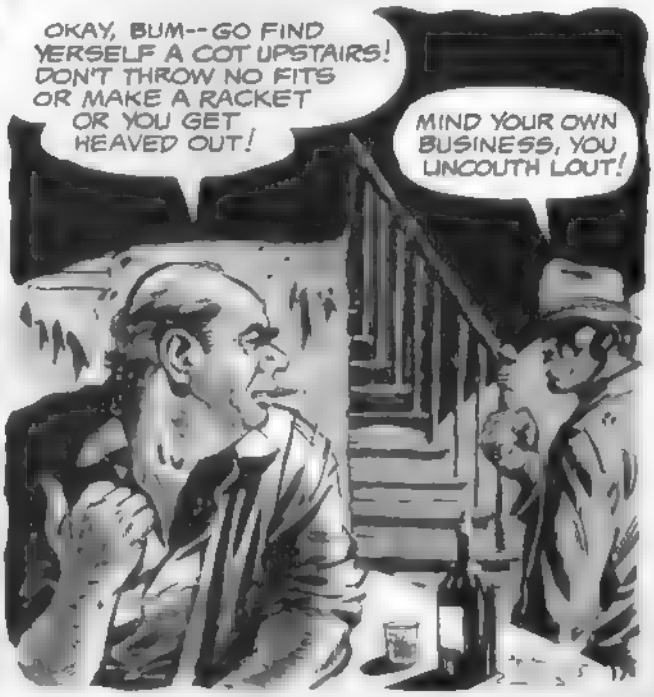
TERCELLE'S MURDERER LIES DEAD BY HIS OWN HAND... OR WAS IT BY THE HAND OF AN UNKNOWN POWER TOO TERRIBLE TO COMPREHEND...? WHO AMONG YOU CAN SAY WHAT IS IMAGINED AND WHAT IS REAL? MORDANN COULDN'T!!!
THE END

THE ZOMBIE-MAKER

THE NAMELESS HORROR STEPPED OUT OF THE DARKNESS TO STEAL THE SOUL OF ARTHUR DRAKE, SKID ROW DERELIC! BUT IT WAS TOO LATE TO ESCAPE THE HORROR VISITED UPON HIM WHEN HE WALKED HAND IN HAND WITH

DEATH!





YES, BETTER THAN THE OTHER STIFFS ON SKID ROW! HAW, HAW! FORGET IT, PAL... YER JUST ANOTHER BUM!
CONTEMPTIBLE OAF!

ARTHUR DRAKE RECOILS AT THE DEGRADATION BEFORE HIM!
...AFTER A BRILLIANT LAW CAREER... NO WILL TO FIGHT ON... RUINED... RUINED...

DRAKE! I SHALL RESCUE YOU FROM THE DEPTH YOU HAVE FALLEN TO!
WHAT IN-- WHO ARE YOU?

I AM THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN SAVE YOU FROM THOSE WHO SEEK TO DESTROY YOU! OBEY MY COMMANDS AND YOU SHALL LIVE THE FULL LIFE!
Y-YOUR COMMANDS...
H-HUH? W-WHAT'S GOIN' ON...?

WITHIN MY MIND ARE THE FORBIDDEN SECRETS OF CIVILIZATION... AND IN MY FINGERS ARE POWER AND DEATH! COME... WE HAVE MUCH TO ACCOMPLISH!

B-BUT YOU JUST KILLED A MAN BACK THERE!
IT WAS NOT A MAN I STRANGLED --IT WAS A DERELICT! OF DISPAIR! THAT IS THE FATE I AM SAVING YOU FROM!

THE GAUNT FIGURE LEAD ARTHUR DRAKE FINALLY...
ENTER AND WAIT MY BIDDING, DRAKE! YOU MAY CALL ME... VENGEANCE!
Y-YES, VENGEANCE!

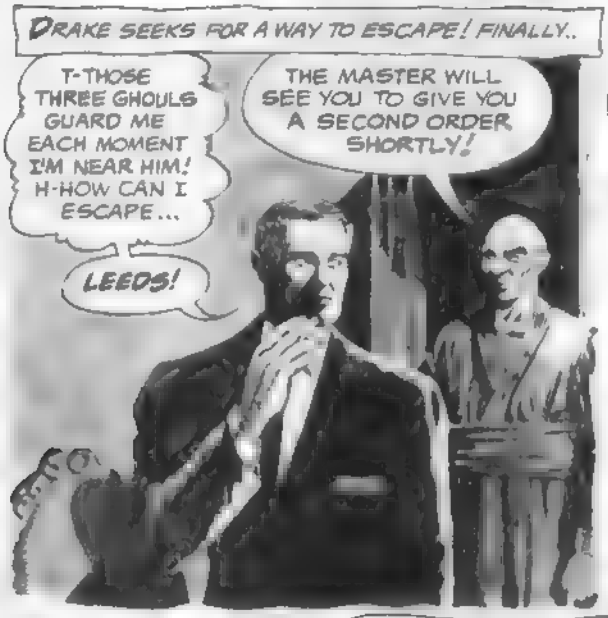
INSIDE THE BATTERED BUILDING THE RUINED ATTORNEY STANDS SPELLBOUND!
GREAT GOSH... IT'S A PALACE... HERE IN SKID ROW! A-AND THOSE MEN... WHAT'S WRONG WITH THEM?
DRAKE STANDS TRANSFIXED IN THE OMINOUS CHAMBER! THEN...
THIS WAY, MR. DRAKE!
Y-YES!
SHOWER, SHAVE AND PUT ON YOUR FRESH ATTIRE! THE MASTER WILL SEE YOU PRESENTLY!
WHAT KIND OF PLACE IS THIS? W-WHO ARE YOU?
I AM THE MASTER'S ASSISTANCE, LEEDS! ALL WILL BE EXPLAINED IN DUE TIME!
GREAT SCOTT! HE SEEMS TO BE OPERATING SOME SORT OF CULT... IT'S AS IF THEY WERE HYPNOTIZED!
PLATE GLASS! I-I'M CAGED IN, LIKE AN ANIMAL!
BUT WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE! ANYTHING IS BETTER THAN SKID ROW!

SUDDENLY A GROTESQUE CHANGE COMES OVER DRAKE! HIS EYES SPARKLE WITH A GLOWERING EVIL...

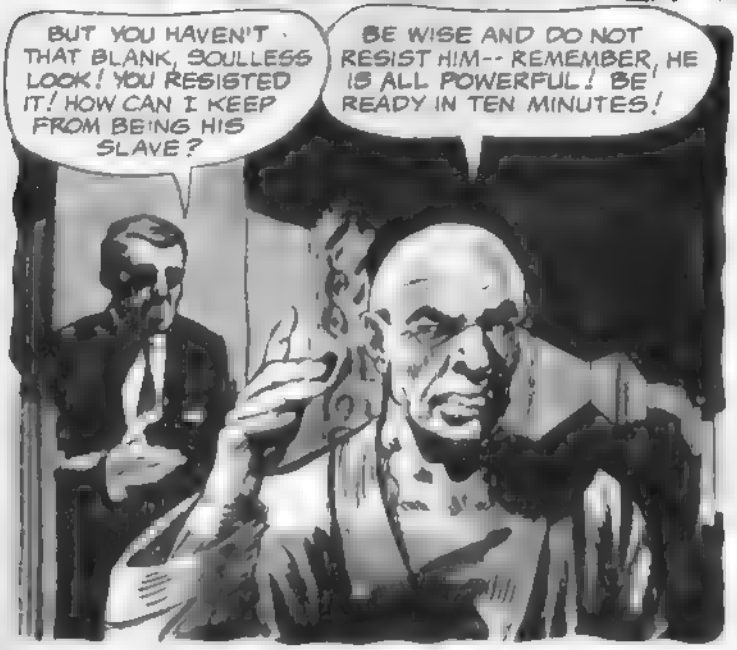
AND LATER...
I... HAVE DONE... YOUR BIDDING, MASTER... I'M COMING HOME!

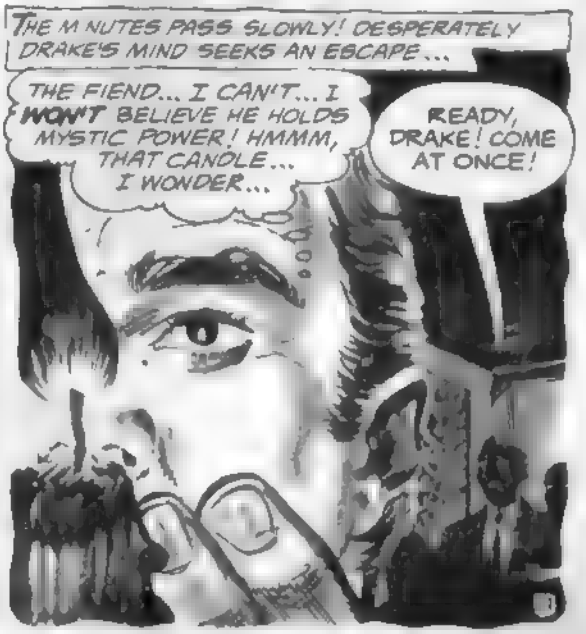
AND THEN...
OH-H-H... IT'S ALL LIKE A HIDEOUS NIGHT-MARE!
DO NOT FRET, DRAKE, YOU HAVE DONE WELL! AND NOT EVEN AWARE THAT YOU ARE MY EMISSARY OF EVIL! LEAD HIM TO HIS CHAMBER!

WITHIN THE LOCKED ROOM DRAKE'S SENSES CLEAR!
GREAT GLORY, H-HE'S PUT THEM UNDER A SPELL! JUST LIKE HE DID TO ME TONIGHT--BUT THEY'RE PERMANENTLY THAT WAY... AND I'LL BE THE SAME SOON!


DRAKE SEEKS FOR A WAY TO ESCAPE! FINALLY..
T-THOSE THREE GHOULS GUARD ME EACH MOMENT I'M NEAR HIM! H-HOW CAN I ESCAPE...
THE MASTER WILL SEE YOU TO GIVE YOU A SECOND ORDER SHORTLY!
LEEDS!

LEEDS, YOU'RE NOT LIKE THE REST! HE HASN'T GOT YOUR MIND YET! HELP ME ESCAPE THIS FIENDISH HOLE!
YOU FOOL! THE MASTER IS ALL POWERFUL! HE WILLS YOUR MIND TO DO AS HE PLEASES!


BUT YOU HAVEN'T THAT BLANK, SOULLESS LOOK! YOU RESISTED IT! HOW CAN I KEEP FROM BEING HIS SLAVE?
BE WISE AND DO NOT RESIST HIM-- REMEMBER, HE IS ALL POWERFUL! BE READY IN TEN MINUTES!


THE MINUTES PASS SLOWLY! DESPERATELY DRAKE'S MIND SEEKS AN ESCAPE...
THE FIEND... I CAN'T... I WON'T BELIEVE HE HOLDS MYSTIC POWER! HMMM, THAT CANDLE... I WONDER...
READY, DRAKE! COME AT ONCE!

ONCE AGAIN DRAKE STANDS HELPLESSLY BEFORE HIS "MASTER" AND...
DRAKE! YOU WILL GO TO THE OFFICE OF YOUR FRIEND, TOM WEEKS, THE BANKER! FROM HIS PRIVATE OFFICE YOU WILL DISCONNECT THE BANK'S ALARM SYSTEM...
I UNDERSTAND, MASTER!
YOU ARE MAKING A BRILLIANT STUDENT, DRAKE! I WAS WISE TO CHOOSE YOU!
THANK YOU, MASTER...
SUDDENLY, AS THE THREE "SOULLESS ONES LEAVE...
... AND NOW IT'S TIME I GAVE YOU A FEW LESSONS!
WHA...? THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE! Y-YOU'RE DRUGGED! YOU'RE IN A HYPNOTIC STATE!
NOT THIS TIME, I STUFFED MY NOSTRILS WITH WAX PELLETS FROM MY CANDLE-- YOUR DRUGGED FUMES DIDN'T REACHED ME!
Y-YOU KNEW!
NO, I HAD TO TAKE A CHANCE YOU WERE NO SPECTRE FROM THE SUPERNATURAL! GREAT SCOTT... YOU'RE LEEDS IN DISGUISE!
OW-W-W!
ZOC!
START TALKING, LEEDS OR I'LL SHOW YOU SOME REAL MUMBO JUMBO WITH MY FISTS! WHY PICK ME OUT OF THAT SKID ROW FLOP HOUSE?
I-I KEPT TRACK OF ONCE SUCCESSFUL MEN WHO... VANISHED IN SKID ROW!
LATER...
THOSE MEN ARE ON OUR MISSING PERSON LIST! BUT THEY'LL PULL THROUGH!
STRANGE, I HAD TO COME TO A SKID ROW FLOP HOUSE TO FIND THE COURAGE TO FACE SOCIETY AGAIN! I'M GOING HOME, OFFICER... HOME FOR KEEPS!
MARCHIONE
THE END

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THE LIVING DEAD

THE STRANGER WAS TIRED... ALL HE WANTED WAS TO SLEEP! HOW COULD HE KNOW HE WOULD WAKE UP AND MEET...

YEAAA! THE CITY OF THE DEAD... IT'S C-COMING ALIVE!!

A JUNKMAN BECOMES A GHOUL TO THE CONFUSED HITCH-HIKER...

YEAH-H! THE CITY OF THE DEAD-- IT'S--IT'S COMING ALIVE!

THEY'LL GET ME, HE SAID! GOT TO R.. RUN!

RUN... RUN FOR YOUR LIFE!
W--? A--A VOICE! A TERRIBLE DEEP VOICE... RUN!

EVERYTHING--B--BLOWING UP...

SHAKING-- EVERYTHING S-SHAKING--(GASP)... C-CAN'T KEEP MY B-BALANCE--

NO-- NO! PLEASE STOP IT!

I....I'M GOING OUT OF MY MIND! I--RUN...RUN!!

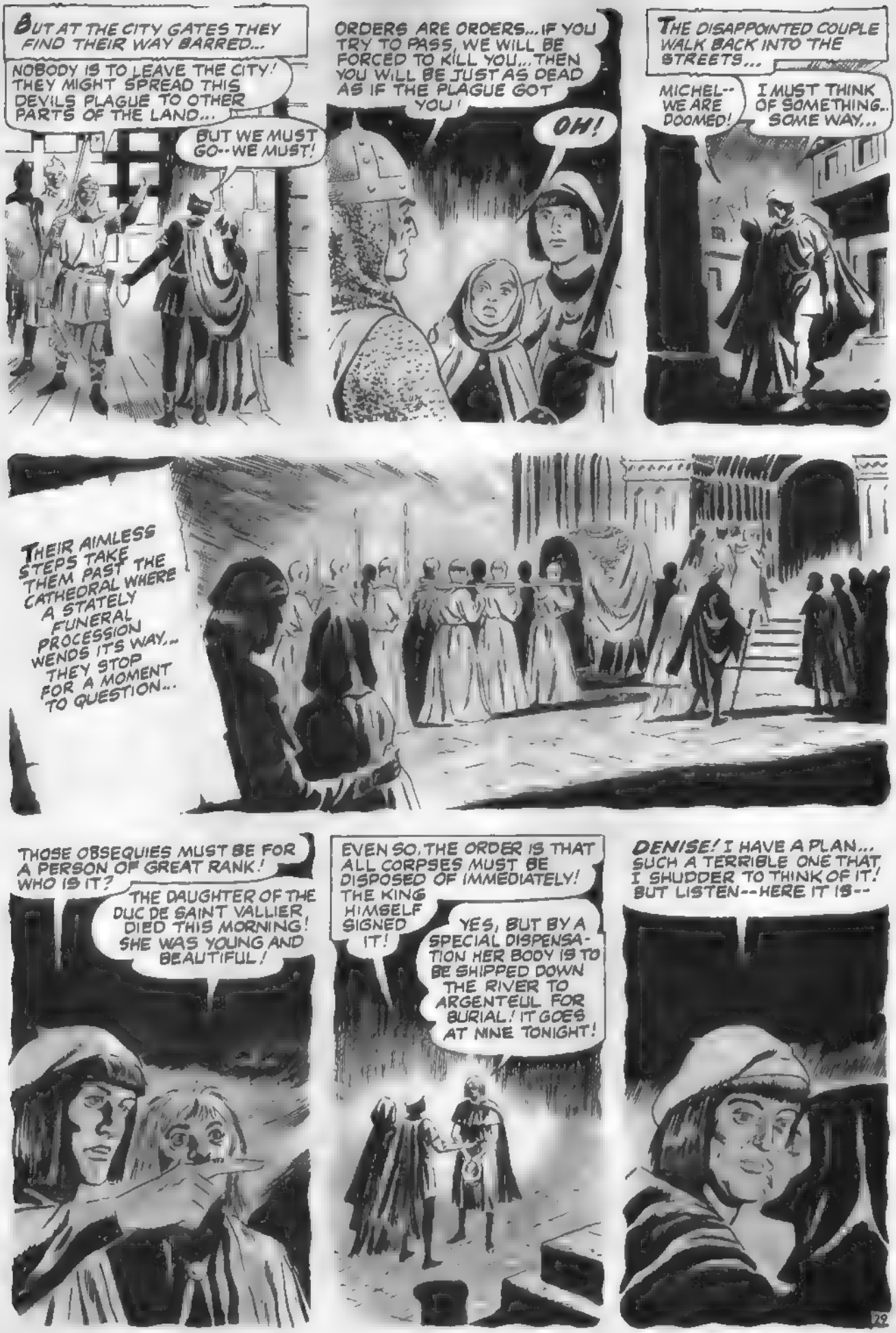
YAHH-- I-I CAN'T STAND IT-- I... AGHHH!

HOW D THIS GUY GET IN HERE? EVERYBODY LIVING HERE WAS EVICTED MONTHS AGO! AH--HE'S COMING TO!
W...WHA...? I-- NO...LET ME GO! YOU'RE GHOSTS... GHOSTS!!
HE THINKS WE'RE GHOSTS! HE MUST BE NUTS...

GHOSTS... GHOSTS! YOU'LL NEVER GET ME!
WAIT! J-JOE... LOOK! THIS AREA LOOKS AS IF IT WERE BLASTED!
EH? YOU'RE RIGHT! BUT WE WERE SUPPOSED TO BLAST HERE TODAY...WHO COULD HAVE... WHY...

--JOE--I JUST REMEMBERED...THIS HOUSING PROJECT IS ON THE SITE OF AN OLD CEMETERY!
THE END!

DEVIL'S PLAGUE


BUT AT THE CITY GATES THEY FIND THEIR WAY BARRED...
NOBODY IS TO LEAVE THE CITY! THEY MIGHT SPREAD THIS DEVILS PLAGUE TO OTHER PARTS OF THE LAND...
BUT WE MUST GO--WE MUST!
ORDERS ARE ORDERS...IF YOU TRY TO PASS, WE WILL BE FORCED TO KILL YOU...THEN YOU WILL BE JUST AS DEAD AS IF THE PLAGUE GOT YOU!
OH!
THE DISAPPOINTED COUPLE WALK BACK INTO THE STREETS...
MICHEL--WE ARE DOOMED!
I MUST THINK OF SOMETHING.. SOME WAY...
THEIR AIMLESS STEPS TAKE THEM PAST THE CATHEDRAL WHERE A STATELY FUNERAL PROCESSION WENDS ITS WAY... THEY STOP FOR A MOMENT TO QUESTION...
THOSE OBSEQUIES MUST BE FOR A PERSON OF GREAT RANK! WHO IS IT?
THE DAUGHTER OF THE DUC DE SAINT VALLIER DIED THIS MORNING! SHE WAS YOUNG AND BEAUTIFUL!
EVEN SO, THE ORDER IS THAT ALL CORPSES MUST BE DISPOSED OF IMMEDIATELY! THE KING HIMSELF SIGNED IT!
YES, BUT BY A SPECIAL DISPENSATION HER BODY IS TO BE SHIPPED DOWN THE RIVER TO ARGENTEUL FOR BURIAL! IT GOES AT NINE TONIGHT!
DENISE! I HAVE A PLAN... SUCH A TERRIBLE ONE THAT I SHUDDER TO THINK OF IT! BUT LISTEN--HERE IT IS--

DENISE BLANCHES AS SHE HEARS MICHEL UNFOLD HIS IDEA, BUT SHE AGREES...
ALL RIGHT, MICHEL! IT'S HORRIBLE, BUT IT SEEMS TO BE OUR ONLY CHANCE TO ESCAPE!
SO, LATE THAT AFTERNOON, THE YOUNG COUPLE FURTIVELY SLINK INTO THE SHADOWS OF THE LOFTY CATHEDRAL, CARRYING AN EMPTY SACK...
NO ONE IS AROUND...THEY ARE ALL FULL OF FEAR OF THE YOUNG GIRL WHO DIED OF PESTILENCE!
WE MUST WORK QUICK!
WHILE DENISE WATCHES FOR GUARDS, MICHEL UNSCREWS THE WOODEN CASKET TOP...
THESE SCREWS COME LOOSE EASILY! SO FAR... SO GOOD!
And..
UGH! IT'S A GOOD THING SHE'S NOT HEAVY!
HURRY, MICHEL! SOMEBODY MAY COME BACK!
INTO THE SACK SHE GOES! SO MUCH FOR THAT! NOW--
COME, MY DEAR! BE BRAVE, DARLING! ALL WILL COME OUT ALL RIGHT!
NO! NO! MICHEL, I CANNOT!!

NEARLY SWOONING WITH TERROR, DENIBE GETS INTO THE COFFIN...
OH, MICHEL... I'M AFRAID!
COURAGE!--JUST FOR A SHORT TIME, THEN WE WILL BE FAR AWAY AND HAPPY TOGETHER!
HERE IS A FLASK OF WATER... AND REMEMBER... NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, DON'T MAKE A SOUND! I'LL SNEAK ABOARD THE BOAT BEFORE IT SAILS AND I'LL LET YOU OUT WHEN WE'RE BEYOND THE CITY!
GOODBYE, MICHEL...I'LL BE BRAVE! GO, NOW! SOMEONE MAY COME AND FIND YOU!
GOOD BYE, FOR A LITTLE WHILE, MY DARLING!
MICHEL LOOSELY SCREWS THE TOP BACK ON...
THEN, SHOULDERING THE CORPSE...HE SLIPS OUT OF THE GLOOMY CATHEDRAL...
BUT SHORTLY...
THE CITY GUARDS!
HALT!
HIS HEART POUNDING IN TERROR, MICHEL GRIPS THE SACK AND TAKES TO HIS HEELS OVER THE UNEVEN COBBLES OF THE OLD STREET...
STOP HIM!
HE'S A LOOTER!

AS MICHEL FLEES FOR HIS LIFE, THE OMINOUS CALL OF THE CHARNEL WAGON COMES FROM NEARBY, AND THE BELL TOLLS ITS CALL OF DEATH...
MAKE WAY FOR THE DEAD! PUT OUT YOUR CORPSES!!
CLANG! CLANG CLANG

FACED WITH THIS SPINE-CHILLING REMINDER OF THE PESTILENCE, THE GUARDS COWER BACK, FEARFUL OF CONTAMINATION...
BACK! BACK!! THE PLAGUE MAY TOUCH US!

MICHEL MAKES GOOD HIS ESCAPE! HE COMES INTO THE YARD OF AN OLD MANSION...
NOT A SOUL LEFT ALIVE IN THE BIG HOUSE! FORTUNATELY, I REMEMBER THIS OLD DRY WELL ON THE GROUNDS! IT SHOULD SERVE MY PURPOSE!

GOD REST THIS POOR GIRL'S SOUL! I HOPE SHE UNDERSTANDS THAT THIS IS OUR ONLY CHANCE...

MICHEL HURRIEDLY MAKES HIS WAY TO THE BANKS OF THE SEINE, WHERE A BOAT IS LOADING UP...
IT'S GETTING DARK! THEY MUST HAVE BROUGHT THE CASKET ON BY NOW...

...HE MINGLES WITH THE LABORERS AND GOES ABOARD...
IT'LL SOON BE TIME TO CAST OFF!
GOOD! I'LL BE GLAD TO GET AWAY FROM THIS PLACE OF DEATH!

AS THE BOAT SAILS FROM THE QUAY...
AT LAST! SOON I'LL BE UNITED WITH MY BELOVED!

SOON, WITH THE SHADOWS OF PESTILENCE RIDDEN PARIS BEHIND THEM, THE SHIP SLIPS INTO THE CURRENT AND HEADS INTO THE BLUE NIGHT DOWNSTREAM WITH THE WORRIED MICHEL ABOARD...
NO SIGN OF THE COFFIN ON THE OPEN DECK...THEY MUST HAVE PUT IT BELOW--

MICHEL SEARCHES THE CARGO BELOW DECK...
WHERE IS IT? WHERE CAN THEY HAVE PUT IT?

HE STUMBLES FRANTICALLY AMONG THE CRATES AND THE BARRELS...
WHERE IS THE WOODEN BOX? DENISE IS WAITING FOR ME! I CAN'T FIND HER!

HE DUCKS INTO THE SHADOWS AS TWO BOATMEN APPROACH...
HERE, MON BRAVE! NO ONE WILL SEE-- WE'LL TAKE A DRAUGHT OF THIS COGNAC... IT WILL WARD OFF THE NIGHT CHILL!

I'M GLAD WE DIDN'T TAKE ON THAT BODY OF THE GIRL WHO DIED OF THE PLAGUE!
YES! HER FATHER THE DUKE, WAS GOING TO SEND THE CORPSE TO ARGENTEUL, BUT HE CHANGED HIS MIND AND HAD HER BURIED RIGHT AFTER SUNDOWN!

A FEW MOMENTS LATER, A FORM JUMPS FROM THE SHIP...
DENISE! I WILL JOIN YOU-- I WILL DIE, TOO!

SEE? WHAT DID I TELL YOU! THEY THINK THEY CAN ELUDE ME, BUT I'M TOO CLEVER FOR THEM! TRY AS THEY MAY, THEY CAN'T ESCAPE THE FINAL CLUTCH OF THE BLACK DEATH!
THE END

THE EVIL TRIP

HALLUCINATIONS? LET ME RECOUNT THE EVENTS OF TERROR AS BEST I CAN... BECAUSE WHAT HAPPENED IS STILL VERY MUCH UNREAL... I DON'T BELIEVE IT, YET IT IS TRUE!

MY ASSOCIATES WARNED ME NOT TO EXPERIMENT WITH HALLUCIGENS BUT I'M A SCIENTIST AND I HAD TO EXPLORE MY INNER MIND! IT WAS ONLY AN HOUR SINCE I CONCOCTED A NEW ELIXER!

PERHAPS THIS FORMULA WILL DELVE DEEPER INTO THOSE HIDDEN RECESSES OF MY MIND! AND OPEN NEW WORLDS!

YOU SWALLOW THE ACRID MIXTURE! SUDDENLY STUPIFIED, YOU TOPPLE TO THE FLOOR! YOUR UNSEEING EYES STARE GLASSILY AS YOU LASPE INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS!

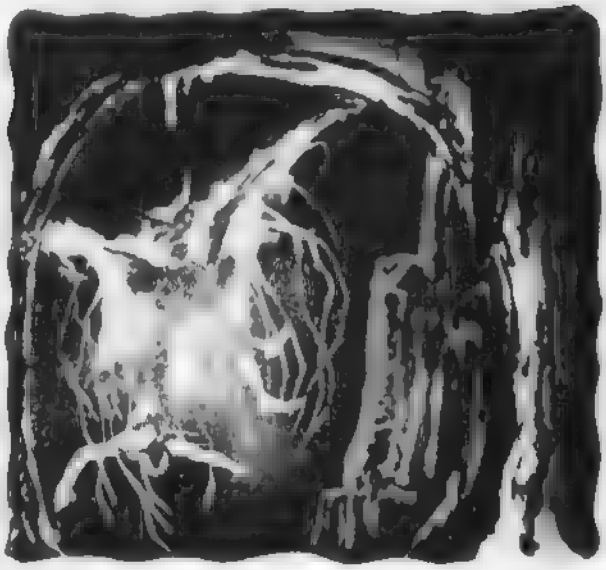
THEN YOU SEEM TO BE FLOATING RIGIDLY IN A BOUNDLESS REALM OF GHOSTLY SPACE! YEARS APPARENTLY PASS, AND ALL THE TIME YOU ARE UNABLE TO SPEAK OR MOVE...

YOU BLANK OUT AGAIN-- THEN REVIVE TO FIND YOURSELF IN A STRANGE PLACE!

YOU WALK SERENELY ALONG IN YOUR ALIEN SURROUNDINGS--

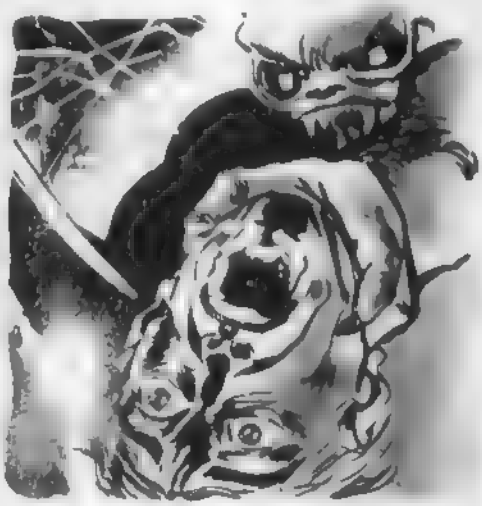
BUT THIS, HERMAN LASHER, IS NOT A WORLD OF SERENITY, -- AS YOU ABRUPTLY LEARN!

YOU TRY TO FIGHT THE THING OFF, BUT SINEWY ARMS PIN YOU INTO HELPLESSNESS...



THERE IS ANOTHER CREATURE PRONE ON A ROCK! ITS SKULL IS OPEN--AND EMPTY! THEN, TO YOUR HORROR, YOU SOMEHOW REALIZE THAT THIS BEING INTENDS TO PLANT **YOUR** BRAIN IN THAT EMPTY SKULL!

YOU SCREAM--HOPING THAT SOMEONE IN YOUR WORLD OF CONSCIOUSNESS WILL HEAR AND AWAKEN YOU!



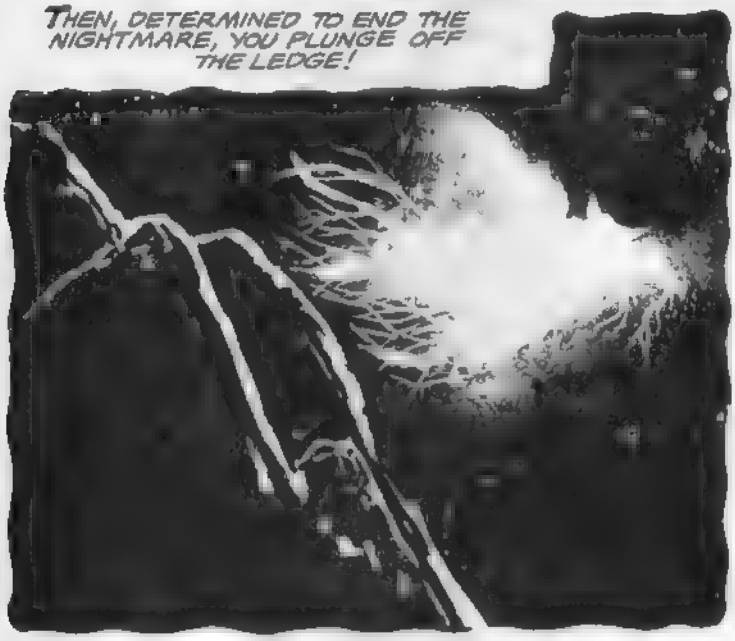
SOMEHOW YOU KNOW WHAT TAKES PLACE! ENDLESS PAIN AND HORROR REACH YOUR SEMI-CONSCIOUS MIND!

SUDDENLY YOU EXPLODE INTO THE CONSCIOUS!

YOU TURN TO SEE THE OTHER CREATURE REGARDING YOU! BEHIND IT LIES A CRUMPLED BODY--**YOUR** BODY!

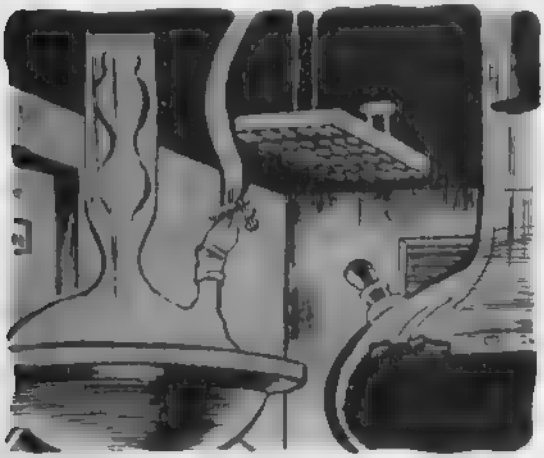
STRENGTHENED WITH RAGE, YOU LEAP AT THE OTHER, AND CLAW ITS THROAT OPEN WITH ONE SWIFT SLASH OF YOUR SHARP TALONS!

THEN, DETERMINED TO END THE NIGHTMARE, YOU PLUNGE OFF THE LEDGE!



YOU FALL AND FALL INTO WHAT SEEMS TO BE A BOTTOMLESS PIT! AGAIN YOU FEEL AS THOUGH YOU ARE TRAPPED IN TIME...

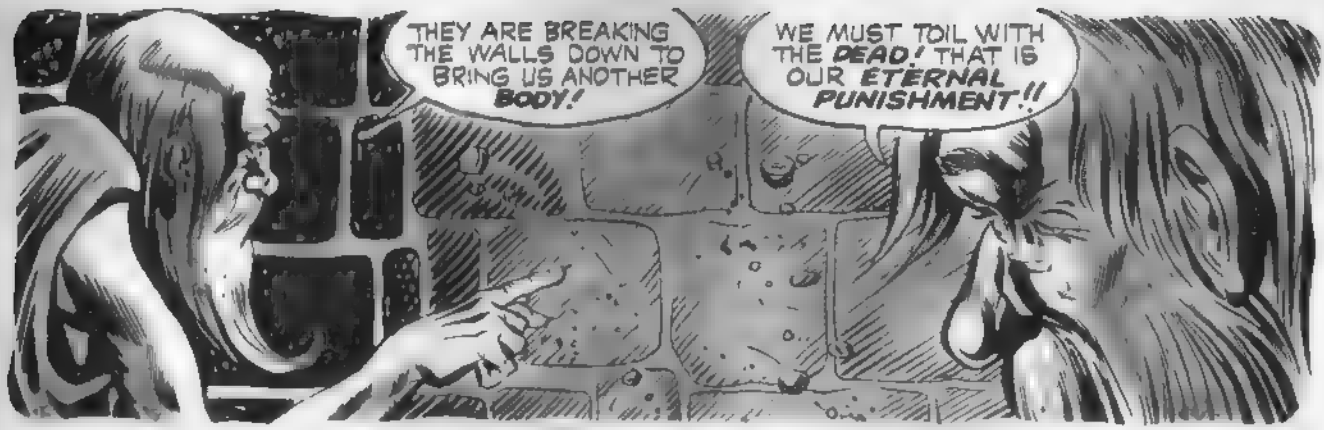
YOU OPEN YOUR EYES! YOU ARE LYING ON A HARD FLOOR! A SENSE OF TREMENDOUS RELIEF SWEEP OVER YOU AS YOU RECOGNIZE FAMILIAR OBJECTS IN YOUR LAB! YOU ARE BACK IN YOUR WORLD OF NORMAL CONSCIOUSNESS! YOUR NIGHTMARE IS OVER!



BUT-- AS YOU GET TO YOUR FEET, YOU CAN'T HELP BUT NOTICE YOURSELF-- AND YOU RECEIVE THE SUPREME SHOCK!

THE SLIMY MUMMY

NO PERSON DARES TO THINK WHAT ***FOUL*** AND ***UNNATURAL*** HORRORS LURK BENEATH THE BLACK SURFACE OF THE EARTH WAITING TO CRUSH HUMAN LIFE BETWEEN THEIR SLIMY FINGERS.. YET OF ALL THESE MONSTERS NONE ARE SO ***APPALLING***, SO ***TERRIFYING*** AS--


THEY ARE BREAKING THE WALLS DOWN TO BRING US ANOTHER BODY!
WE MUST TOIL WITH THE DEAD! THAT IS OUR ETERNAL PUNISHMENT!!

ANOTHER TRAVELLER TO THE LAND OF THE DEAD COMES INTO THE ROOM TO FILL IT WITH HIS SICKLY ODOR--AND THE SERVANTS OF THE TOMB GAZE UPON IT WITH AWE AND DREAD!
WHY IS HE SO LARGE?
HE MUST BE ONE OF THE FEW GIANTS LEFT IN THE LAND!

HIS FACE HAS THE MARK OF BRUTALITY ON IT! HE MUST HAVE SHED MUCH BLOOD IN HIS TIME!
SOMEHOW HE LOOKS VERY FAMILIAR!
THEY HAVE CLOSED THE WALL! THEY NEVER FORGET!

I KNOW WHO HE IS! THIS IS TORO, THE MURDERING GIANT WHO HAS KILLED HUNDREDS IN HIS DAY! THEY CAUGHT HIM AT LAST!

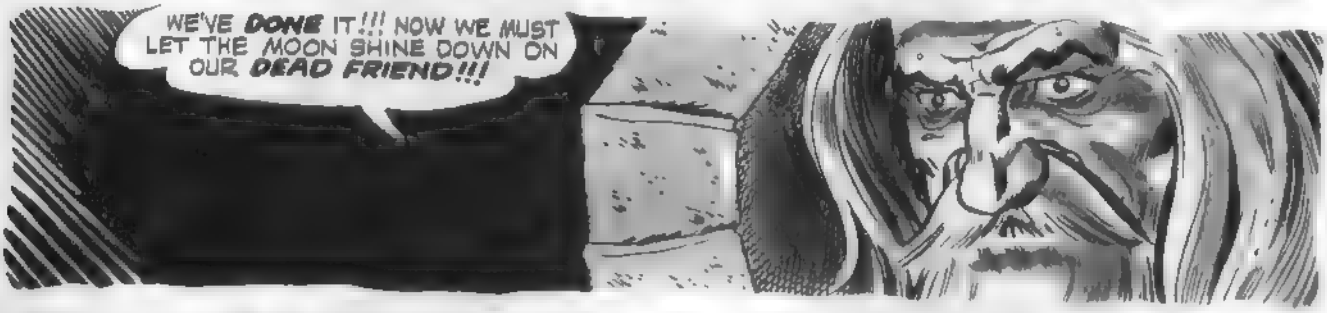
WE HAD BETTER PREPARE HIM FOR BURIAL!
THEY WILL GET MUCH PLEASURE FROM SEEING HIM UNDER THE EARTH!

WAIT! DO YOU RECALL THE LEGEND OF TORO? THOUGH HE MAY DIE, THE PEOPLE SAY HE CAN BE RESTORED TO LIFE IF HE BE BATHED IN THE LIGHT OF A FULL MOON!

...AND TONIGHT THE FULL MOON APPEARS! IF WE CAN BRING ITS LIGHT IN HERE, THE BODY WILL BE RE-STORED TO LIFE!
AND WE CAN LEAD HIM AGAINST THOSE WHO LOCKED US IN THIS DUNGEON FOREVER!
THE STONES IN THE WALL HAVE BEEN LOOSENED BY BEING CONSTANTLY BROKEN DOWN! THEN WE CAN ESCAPE WITH TORO AS OUR LEADER!
YES! YES! LET'S HURRY!
NO! WE CANNOT OPPOSE THE GODS BY RESTORING THE DEAD TO LIFE! IT'S AGAINST THEIR WISHES! WE ARE JUST TOMB SERVANTS!
THAT IS TRUE! WE WILL BE SEVERELY PUNISHED!
IN A MOMENT, FIERCE WORDS STRIKE OUT LIKE COBRAS IN THE DARK! THE AIR IN THE ROOM BECOMES HEAVY WITH DANGER AND FOREBODING...
DO YOU WANT TO ROT HERE FOR THE REST OF YOUR DAYS?
THE GODS WILL UNLEASH THEIR WRATH UPON US FOR DISTURBING THE DEAD!
THEN WE WILL DO IT, WITHOUT YOU! DIE, FOOL!
AAi
iii
iii

LET THE GODS BE ANGRY NOW!! ALL THOSE WHO ARE AFRAID OF THEIR WRATH HAVE BEEN KILLED!
HURRY! THE MOON WILL BE OUT SOON!

DO NOT STOP UNTIL THE WALL HAS BEEN BROKEN!
TORO WILL WALK THE STREETS OF THE CITY-- TONIGHT!


WE'VE DONE IT!!! NOW WE MUST LET THE MOON SHINE DOWN ON OUR DEAD FRIEND!!!

THE MOON IS BRIGHT THIS EVENING! IT SHOULD HELP US IN OUR... WORK...
IT WON'T BE LONG NOW!!! LOOK-- IT STIRS!

STEADILY THE MOON SHINES ON THE LOATHESOME FIGURE ON THE SLAB UNTIL LIFE BEGINS TO STIR WITHIN THE TREMENDOUS BODY!

A-A-W-W-R-R-R-R!
HE'S ALIVE AGAIN!
--AND HE BELONGS TO US!

WE GAVE LIFE BACK TO HIM! HE WILL OBEY US NOW! WE ARE HIS MASTERS!
YET, HE FRIGHTENS ME!
RAW-R-R-R-R-R-R-ROWR--

COME, TORO, FOLLOW US INTO THE CITY! THE MOON IS FULL AND THERE ARE MANY WHOSE THROATS ARE WAITING TO BE TORN BY YOUR STRONG FINGERS!
A-A-A-R-R-R-R-H-H-H!

FOLLOW US INTO THE NIGHT AIR! THE CITY IS NOT FAR!
WE ARE FREE AT LAST! SEE HOW THEY RUN FROM US!

RUN FOR YOUR LIVES! THE SERVANTS OF THE TOMB HAVE ESCAPED AND BROUGHT TORO BACK TO LIFE!
ROWRRR!

THEY FLEE IN FRIGHT FROM US, TORO! THEY DO NOT WISH TO PAY THE PRICE FOR FORCING A LIVING DEATH UPON US! BUT THEY MUST!

KILL HIM! KILL HIM! REMOVE THE LIGHT FROM HIS EYES, AS THEY DID FROM OURS!
GROWRR!
ARRGH!

ONWARD THE SCOURGE OF DEATH AND TERROR SWEEPS THROUGH THE NIGHT, LEAVING BROKEN BODIES IN HIS WAKE AND THE TRIUMPHANT CRIES OF HIS GODLESS MASTERS!
NO! DON'T COME NEAR ME! AH-H-H!
WE WILL NOT REST UNTIL EVERY PERSON IN THE CITY HAS FALLEN AND LIES DEAD UNDER OUR WRATH AND POWER! COME, TORO!
RAWRRR!
IS THERE NO HELP FROM THIS PLAGUE OF VIOLENT DEATH? ARE THE GODS DEAF TO OUR CRIES FOR MERCY?
HELP US BEFORE WE PERISH LIKE THE OTHERS!
AS IF IN ANSWER TO THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, A SUDDEN BOLT OF LIGHTNING STRIKES THE SKY...
LOOK! A SIGN IN THE SKY!
WHAT COULD IT MEAN? WILL WE BE SAVED?
IT'S THE WHITE GIANT OF PEACE SENT TO RESCUE US FROM THIS HORRIBLE DOOM!
LEAVE THE CITY AT ONCE, FOUL CREATURES OF THE NIGHT! YOU HAVE BROUGHT ENOUGH HAVOC UPON THE PEOPLE!
RAWRRR!
THERE IS BUT ONE WAY TO END YOUR RAMPAGE! I MUST DESTROY THIS MONSTER FOR ALL TIME... AND I MUST DESTROY HIM NOW!
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THE BATTLE BEGINS...
RAWRRRRR! GRAWRRR!!

YOU MUST W.N. TORO! YOU MUST!
AWRRRR!

DIE AT LAST, MONSTER OF EVIL!
ARRGHH-H-H!

FREE FROM THE THREAT OF SUDDEN DEATH THE PEOPLE TURN WITH FURY ON THEIR ASSAILANTS...
WHY DON'T WE KILL THEM? THEY DESERVE NO BETTER!
YES! WE'LL SHOW THEM WHAT IT IS TO FACE DEATH WITHOUT WARNING!

NO, PEOPLE, YOU MUST NOT KILL THEM! THEY MUST RETURN TO THEIR PRISON BENEATH THE TOMB... NEVER TO LEAVE AGAIN!

AND SO THE TOMB SERVANTS RETURN TO THEIR VAULT, FOREVER SHUT FROM THE LIGHT OF THE SUN, FOREVER DOOMED TO LIVE WITH THE DEAD!
THE END

KALI, GODDESS OF DEATH AND DESTRUCTION, HAS BEEN ACCUSTOMED TO A BLOOD GLUT OF HUMAN SACRIFICES! NOW SHE STOOD NEGLECTED....BUT WITH HER LUST FOR BLOOD UNSLAKED! THE GODDESS PROVED THIS BY STALKING HER VICTIMS HERSELF!
THE BLOOD GODDESS
HOW MUCH IS THIS STATUE?
IT IS NOT FOR SALE, SAHIB! THE PRIEST'S WOULD NOT PART WITH IT FOR ANY PRICE!
NONSENSE! TELL YOUR BRETHREN, I WILL RETURN TONIGHT AND CART IT AWAY!
YOU WASTE YOUR TIME, SAHIB!
T.C. HAMLOCK WAS A RUTHLESS COLLECTOR OF ORIENTAL STATUARY! HAMLOCK NEVER TOOK "NO" FOR AN ANSWER.....

THAT NIGHT...
WHO IS THIS KALI DAME YOU GOT YOUR EYE ON?
LOUIE! KALI IS THE HINDU GODDESS OF VIOLENCE! IN PRIMITIVE TIMES, KALI WAS WORSHIPPED BY THE THUGGEES!
WHEN BRITISH RULE STAMPED OUT THE THUGGEES, KALI WAS OUT OF LUCK!
THAT'S TOUGH ON KALI! BOSS...THERE'S THE TEMPLE! IF YOU DON'T GET ANYWHERE WITH THEM PRIESTS, LEAVE 'EM TO US!
SAHIB! WE TOLD YOU...THE STATUE IS NOT FOR SALE!
YOU WILL LEARN ONE THING ABOUT T.C. HAMLOCK....HE GETS WHAT HE WANTS! JOE!
OKAY, BOSS!
BARROOM
PERHAPS NOW YOU'LL SEE HOW SERIOUS I AM! BRING FORTH THAT STATUE!
NEVER! THESE PRECINCTS ARE SACRED! INVADERS MUST DIE!
WRONG MOVE, PAL!
CAN'T YOU SEE THAT RESISTANCE IS USELESS? COME ON, MEN!
YAAAAAA
BRATTTATTTAA
NO! YOU SHALL HAVE TO KILL ME FIRST!
AS YOU LIKE LOUIE!
RIGHT, BOSS!

HA HA
DOES ANYBODY ELSE CARE TO ARGUE WITH ME?
BRATATA
ARRGG!
YOU'LL BE PUNISHED FOR THIS, HAMLOCK! YOU WILL HANG FOR MURDER!

HA HA H
I'M SURE KALI DOESN'T MIND! IT'S A LONG TIME SINCE KALI WAS OFFERED HUMAN SACRIFICES!

HAMLOCK HAD HIS HEART'S DESIRE! HE BROUGHT THE STATUE TO AMERICA!
I WANT IT INCLUDED IN MY ORIENTAL SECTION...BUT IT MUST HAVE PROMINENCE!
HOW ABOUT STANDING IT NEAR THE HANGKOW BUDDHA?

SAY! DID YOU SET UP THAT STATUE?
ME? NO!
YOU MUST HAVE SET IT UP! IT COULD NOT GET UP BY ITSELF!
MR. JOHN ANGSWORTH IS HERE TO SEE YOU, SIR!

MINUTES LATER...IN THE LIBRARY!
ANGSWORTH! WHAT A DELIGHTFUL SURPRISE! MY FUTURE FATHER-IN-LAW WAS THE LAST MAN I EXPECTED TO SEE!
I COME...NOT AS A FUTURE RELATIVE OF YOURS, BUT TO WARN YOU TO STAY AWAY FROM MY DAUGHTER!

SHE DOESN'T WANT TO BE BOTHERED BY YOU, HAMLOCK!
ANGSWORTH, I HAVE MADE UP MY MIND TO MARRY HER! NOTHING ON EARTH CAN STOP ME NOW!
I AM PREPARED TO STOP YOU, HAMLOCK....WITH A BULLET IF NEED BE!
OKAY, ANGSWORTH! YOU'VE SAID YOUR PIECE! NOW GET OUT!
NOT TILL YOU'VE SWORN AN OATH TO STAY AWAY FROM CAROLINE!
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS!

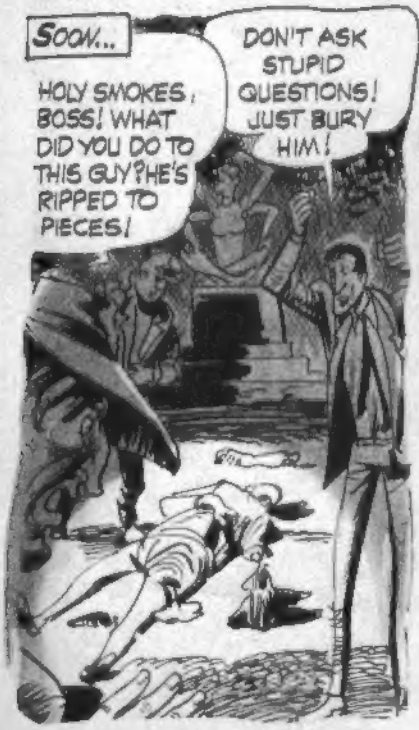
THEN YOU LEAVE ME NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO SHOOT YOU!
DON'T BE STUPID, ANGSWORTH! PUT DOWN THAT GUN!
BUT...
BETTER LOOK AWAY HAMLOCK! WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN ISN'T A PRETTY SIGHT!
BLAM

NO! N-NO! DON'T....
AAAAAAAEEE

MINUTES LATER...
I-IS HE?
ANGSWORTH IS QUITE DEAD! LIKE YOU, HAMLOCK, I AM AGAIN AN EXPERT AT MURDER! I HAVE YOU TO THANK FOR THAT!
SINCE MY WORSHIPPERS, THE THUGGEES, WERE DESTROYED...I HAVE ENJOYED FEW VICTIMS! NOBODY MAKES OFFERINGS TO KALI ANY MORE! I AM STARVED FOR CORPSES!
THEN A NEW BELIEVER IN SUDDEN DEATH CAME INTO MY LIFE! A MURDERER, NAMED T.C. HAMLOCK. HAMLOCK, SAID I, WILL CONSTANTLY BE SUPPLIED WITH VICTIMS!

NOT IF YOU TURN THIS GARDEN INTO A CEMETERY! BURY ANGSWORTH HERE!
NO! I-I'M AFRAID!

DO AS I SAY OR JOIN ANGSWORTH!
ALL RIGHT!


SOON...
HOLY SMOKES, BOSS! WHAT DID YOU DO TO THIS GUY? HE'S RIPPED TO PIECES!
DON'T ASK STUPID QUESTIONS! JUST BURY HIM!

LATER...
LOUIE...I GOT THE FEELING SOMEBODY'S WATCHIN' ME!
ME TOO! I DON'T CARE IF HAMLOCK DON'T LIKE IT! I'M ASKIN' HIM A FEW QUESTIONS! WAIT HERE!

I MUST BE GETTIN' CRAZY! I STILL FEEL THEM EYES STARIN' AT ME! LIKE TWO HOT KNIVES STABBIN' AT MY BACK!

CONTINUED ON BACK COVER

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BUT THE FOLLOWING EVENING, AS T.C. HAMLOCK ESCORTED HIS FIANCEE INTO THE GARDEN, A PUZZLED FIGURE SHADOWED THEM...
I WANT YOU TO SEE ALL THE TREASURES THAT WILL SOON BE YOURS!
EEEAA
THEN OUT OF THE SHADOWED GARDEN...
HOLD ON, CAROLINE!
K-KENNETH! YOU FOLLOWED US!
YOU'VE BETRAYED ME, YOU FOOL! I'M A HUMAN BEING! A YOGI WHO WORSHIPPED THE GODDESS KALI! SINCE ANY YOGI CAN STAND INDEFINITELY IN ONE PLACE WITHOUT MOVING, I COSTUMED MYSELF AS KALI AND ASSUMED THE LIFE OF A STATUE! A LIFE THAT NOW COMES TO AN END FOR BOTH OF US! TRAITOR!
N-NO, KALI! NO! N.... AAAEEEE!
GOOD THING I DID! YOU BROUGHT CAROLINE HERE TO BE KILLED! LET HER GO!
BUT KALI HAD CLAIMED HER LAST VICTIM! A MOMENT LATER, CAROLINE ANGSWORTH AND THE MAN SHE HAD ALMOST GIVEN UP WALKED OUT OF THE PRESENCE OF EVIL NEVER TO RETURN!
The End.